

## Prairie Trails Memorandum

South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Program

# Braille and Talking Book Program Strategic Plan

During the past five years the Braille and Talking Book Program has seen many changes including the use of digital format for books and magazines; the ability to download books and magazines; and, most recently, the ability to read books and magazines from iOS devices. With recent changes in how service is provided, it seemed like an opportune time to focus on how the Braille and Talking Book Program will provide service in the future. A

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committee was formed representing the South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Program, South Dakota Department of Education, South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, South Dakota Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired, South Dakota Association of the Blind, South Dakota National Federation of the Blind, and South Dakota public libraries. The result of this committee was the South Dakota State Library Braille and Talking Book Program Strategic Plan Draft: 2015-2018.

I encourage everyone to read the Strategic Plan Draft. Please call your Reader Advisor and ask to checkout an audio or braille copy of the strategic plan. You can also find an audio copy and a large print copy of the strategic plan on our website, http://library.sd.gov/BTB/index.aspx in the right hand column. Comments are being accepted through September 30. You may send your comments to me, Colleen Kirby, at colleen.kirby@state.sd.us or call me at 1-800-423-6665, option 6. The State Library Board will have

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the second reading of the strategic plan at their October 2nd meeting in Pierre. The South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Program is here to serve you. Your comments and suggestions are appreciated.

Colleen Kirby Assistant State Librarian



Using the Digital player

## Time for a Movie

Have you watched a good movie lately? If you enjoy watching movies you might want to check-out the Braille and Talking Book Program's new Descriptive Video Service. The Descriptive Video Service provides access to over 200 movies in DVD format. The DVDs contain a soundtrack with narration of the key visual elements of the film to make them accessible to viewers with visual disabilities. These key visual elements include any part of a presentation that blind or visually impaired viewers would ordinarily miss, such as the characters' actions, costumes, gestures, and facial expressions, as well as scene changes and onscreen text. To watch the movies you will need a television and DVD player, or a computer with a DVD player.

To borrow movies you must complete a Descriptive Video Borrower Registration form. You can find the form on our website, http://library.sd.gov/BTB/collections.aspx#Descriptive, or ask your Reader Advisor to send you the form. Once we have the form on file you may borrow movies. Movies can be checked out for

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two weeks. There is no renewal. You can borrow two movies at a time.

You can find a list of the movies available in the Braille and Talking Book Program Online Catalog, http://talkbook.library.sd.gov/cgi-bin/webopac.cgi/sd1a or you can ask your Reader Advisor to send you a catalog.



# Subscribing to Magazines on BARD

Patrons can now subscribe to magazines through BARD. Subscribing to a magazine means that the latest issue of that magazine will be added to your wish list automatically as soon as it becomes available. Patrons can subscribe to as many magazines as they want and can unsubscribe at any time. Patrons can also choose to receive email notifications when magazines are added to their wish list. Here's how to subscribe to a magazine:

- 1. Log into your BARD account.
- 2. Go to the Magazines by Title combo box, which is just below the heading that says, "Magazines by title."
- 3. Choose the magazine to which you want to subscribe.

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- 4. Tab to the Go button, and press Enter. A page listing recent issues of your chosen magazine opens. There is a level 1 heading at the top of the page with the same name as your chosen magazine.
- 5. Just below the magazine title heading is a Subscribe button. Press Space on this button to activate it. A screen opens notifying you that you have been subscribed. This screen also includes a "Back to magazine listing" link, which returns you to the main page for your magazine, and an "E-mail notification options" link that users can follow to set up an "Alert me by email when new issues of subscribed magazines are available" option.

# **Currency Readers**

The National Library Service (NLS) has agreed to partner with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) in distributing its currency readers. The readers are free and will only read U.S. currency.

NLS is scheduled to begin distributing currency readers to patrons who are blind or visually impaired later this year. If you would like a currency reader, please contact your Reader Advisor. Your Reader Advisor will make sure that your name and address is submitted to NLS. Remember, you will

not receive your currency reader until late fall.



Currency Reader

# Cassette Service Deadline

Many of you may know that the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has stopped production and maintenance of the cassette book collection and the players needed to listen to those cassettes.

The South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Program has been slowly phasing out cassette service to patrons. If you have a cassette player in good working condition you may keep it and continue to receive cassette books for it as long as we have a cassette collection. However, if this machine breaks down we will not be able to repair or replace it. This will be the end of your cassette service. It would be in your best interest to get comfortable with your digital player and digital books. The collection we have in digital far surpasses the cassette in both quality and quantity.

# **Kids/ Teen News**

## Prairie Bud & Pasque Children's Book Awards

The Prairie Bud and Prairie Pasque Children's Book Awards are sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association with the express purpose of encouraging children to become enthusiastic, discriminating readers.

Any South Dakota student in grades K-2 can vote for the Prairie Bud books and any South Dakota student in grades 3-5 can vote for the Prairie Pasque books. To vote, a child must have read or heard at least 5 of the contest books. Schools must participate in the Prairie Bud and Pasque awards for students to be eligible to vote.

The voting deadline is March 31, 2015. The book award winners will be announced in April during National Library Week.

Below is the list of books nominated for the Prairie Bud and Prairie Pasque awards. We are currently in the process of having these books recorded. If you would like to read any of these titles please contact your Reader Advisor. If a title has not yet been read we will put a rush on it and send it to you as soon as possible. Start reading today. March 31 will be here before you know it.

## 2014-2015 Prairie Bud Nominees

A is for Musk Ox by Erin Cabatingan

Heroes of the Surf by Elisa Carbone

Question Boy Meets Little Miss Know-It-All by Peter Catalanotto

The Cloud Spinner by Michael Catchpool

Victricia Malicia: Book Loving Buccaneer by Carrie Clickard

Nelly May Has Her Say by Cynthia DeFelice

Being Frank by Donna W. Earnhardt

Barnum's Bones: How Barnum Brown Discovered the Most Famous Dinosaur in the World by Tracey Fern

Curious Critters by Dave FitzSimmons

Ralph Tells a Story by Abby Hanlon

Oh No, George! by Chris Haughton

Lemonade in Winter: A Book About Two Kids Counting Money by Emily Jenkins

My Happy Life by Rose Lagercrantz

The Long, Long Journey: The Godwit's Amazing Migration by Sandra Markle

Home for Bird by Philip C. Stead

The Quiet Place by Sarah Stewart

### 2014-2015 Prairie Pasque Nominees

Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington by Jabari Asimi

Go for the Goal! by Fred Bowen

Freaky Fast Frankie Joe by Lutricia Clifton

The Second Life of Abigail Walker by Frances O'Roark Dowell

The Matchbox Diary by Paul Fleischman

Adventures of Beanboy by Lisa Harkrader

Tua and the Elephant by R. P. Harris

Cowboys: Voices in the Western Wind by David L. Harrison

Zombie Makers: True Stories of Nature's Undead by Rebecca L. Johnson

The President's Stuck in the Bathtub: Poems About the Presidents by Susan Katz

Island of Thieves by Josh Lacey

Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic by Ginnie Lo

Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story by S. D. Nelson

The Spindlers by Lauren Oliver

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

Dogs on Duty: Soldiers' Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent

## **New Fax Number**

If you are faxing the Braille and Talking Book Program, the number to use is 605-773-4950.



South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Program

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www.library.sd.gov

The Prairie Trails Newsletter is our means of communication with all patrons of the Braille and Talking Book Program. The Prairie Trails Newsletter is made available on audio and also in braille, in large print, or on a diskette upon request and is posted on our website.

If you have any questions or comments you would like to address, or wish to request this newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the SD Braille and Talking Book Program. Call us toll free at 1-800-423-6665.

The SD Braille & Talking Book Program does not endorse any service or product listed in this newsletter.

